

Wayne Allard

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Contact: Sean Conway
(202) 224-6207
Kelly Brady
(202) 224-5946

SENATE APPROVES ROCKY FLATS WILDLIFE REFUGE BILL ALLARD SUCCESSFULLY ATTACHES BILL TO DOD AUTHORIZATION

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) on Tuesday successfully attached his Rocky Flats Wildlife National Refuge Bill to the FY 2002 Defense Authorization Bill. The U.S. Senate approved the bill by a vote of 99-0. The legislation will now be considered as part of a conference committee to work out differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.

“We have scored a big victory today in our efforts to transform Rocky Flats into a national wildlife refuge,” Allard said following the Senate vote. “With any luck at all, we could begin calling Rocky Flats a future wildlife refuge before the end of the year.”

Colorado Second District U.S. Representative Mark Udall and Senator Allard introduced the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge Bill earlier this year. The legislation has been endorsed by Colorado Governor Bill Owens, the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments and enjoys the support of the entire Colorado congressional delegation.

The Rocky Flats Wildlife National Refuge Act would convert Rocky Flats, located northwest of Denver, into a national wildlife refuge only after the site has been cleaned up and closed. The refuge would preserve more than 6,000 acres of open space.

“My goal has been to try and gain passage of the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge bill before the end of the year,” added Allard. “As a member of the conference committee that will be working out the differences between the two defense bills, I am confident that with the help of Congressman Udall we will be able to keep the Rocky Flats bill in the conference report and thus meet that goal.”

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